SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Sir, unfortunately, even for answering this supplementary, there is shortage of time. With regard to the specific question raised by the hon. Member, there is a special scheme called the Swarnajayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana, the programme called the self-help programme. This is the programme which is catching up throughout the country. In this programme, more than 60 to 70 per cent of the participants were women. Wc arc putting more focus on them. Recently, wc have taken initiative to have an All India Conference at Hyderabad where it was decided to have about 14 lakh self-help groups in the coming three years with a focus, particularly, on women and also the backward areas.

श्रीमती सरोज दुबेःअलग से बजट क्या दे रहे हैं आप ?

श्रीमती चन्द्रकला पांडेः महिलाओं के लिये अलग से बजट कितना है, यह नहीं बताया।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Foreign assistance for power sector

†*144. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem published in Dainik Jagran dated the 18th February, 2001, under the caption, "bijli ke liye das hazar karor ki videshi madad ke istemal ka intazar";

(b) if so, Government's reaction. thereto;

(c) the details of power projects which have not used the foreign assistance provided to them and the reasons therefor; and

(d) what steps arc being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As soon as a loan for a particular power project is made effective by an International donor, the entire amount is added

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

to a pool of funds. As the project is executed, funds are drawn from this pool. The left over amount is called undrawn balance. Since a power project normally requires five to seven years time for completion, with new loans adding regularly, there is always some amount left as undrawn balance. The existence of an undrawn balance, therefore, is no reflection on the execution of projects. To make an assessment of the utilization of foreign assistance, onc has to compare its utilization *vis-a-vis* its Budget Estimate. The figures for 1998-99 to 2000-2001 arc as follows in respect of power projects in which the external assistance was routed through the Government of India:

Year	Disbursement Target B.E. (Rs. Cr)	Disbursement Target R.E. (Rs. Cr)	Actual Utilisation (Rs. Cr.)	% Utilization with respect to B.E.
1998-99	2716.43	2270.94	2515.51	92.60
1999-2000	2326.91	2103.61	2583.24	111.00
2000-2001	1809.71	1517.09	2351.79	129.90

(c) Although, for the past three years, the utilization of the external assistance in power sector has ranged from 92.60% to 129.90% *vis-a-vis* the Budget Estimate of the year, full utilization, however, could not be achieved in some of the ongoing projects. During 2000-2001, shortfalls were in Nathpa Jhakri HEP (NJPC), Srisailam Power Transmission Project (APTRANSCO), Purulia Pumped Storage Power Project (WBSEB), West Bengal Power Transmission Project (WBSEB), Bakreshwar Thermal Power Project (WBPDCL) and R&M of Umiam HEP (Meghalaya). Broad reasons for shortfall in utilization of external assistance include damage of plant and equipment by flash floods, delay in award of contracts, delay in supplies by contractors and performance guarantee tests, litigation problems, settlement of final accounts etc.

(d) For monitoring of externally-aided ongoing projects in the Central and State Sectors, a separate Project Monitoring Cell has been established in the Ministry of Power. On the basis of inputs given by this Cell focusing on specific problem areas and

impediments, periodic comprehensive reviews arc held and corrective measures taken.

World Heritage site—Hampi

*145. SHRIMATI SARLA MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) has informed that Hampi would be deleted from the list of World Heritage Sites if steps arc not taken to protect the ancient monuments;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Hampi has no facilities like regular transport for tourists; and

(c) if so, what steps arc being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) No, Sir. The World Heritage site of Hampi has been declared as an endangered site by the UNESCO in view of certain construction activities at the site, carried out by the Karnataka State Government.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. Adequate transport and other facilities are available for tourists.

Release of funds for son-et-lumiere/floodlighting tourist destinations

*146. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have released funds for son-et-lumiere/ floodlighting tourist destinations to make them more attractive;

(b) if so, the details of the funds released, tourist destinations, State-wise; and

(c) by when completion of the work is expected, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.